

House Bill 571

By: Representative Pirkle of the 155<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of chief judge of the Magistrate Court of Ben  
2 Hill County shall be nonpartisan elections; to provide for the sitting chief judge of the  
3 magistrate court to serve out his or her term of office; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 All elections for the office of chief judge of the Magistrate Court of Ben Hill County  
8 conducted after the effective date of this Act shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for  
9 in Code Section 21-2-139 of the O.C.G.A. and shall be conducted at the nonpartisan general  
10 election immediately preceding the expiration of each respective term of office. Such  
11 nonpartisan elections shall be held and conducted as provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the  
12 O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the chief judge of the Magistrate Court  
15 of Ben Hill County in office on the effective date of this Act. The sitting chief judge of the  
16 magistrate court shall serve out the term of office for which such chief judge was elected and  
17 shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself as provided in this Act.

18 **SECTION 3.**

19 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.